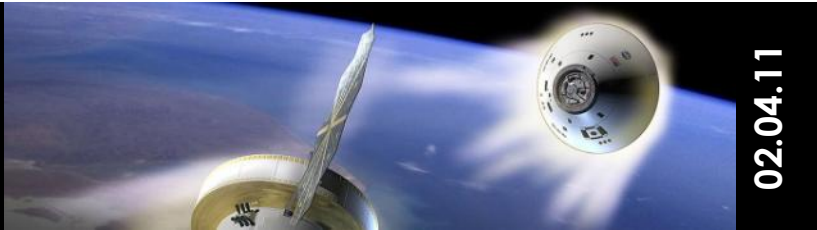


ORION

CREW EXPLORATION VEHICLE

WEEKLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS



02.04.11



The Crew Module Ground Test Article has been removed from the assembly fixture (upper left) and loaded into the Crew Module Transportation Fixture at the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, Louisiana. With the cover in place, the crew module is now ready for its journey to the Lockheed Martin facility in Denver, Colorado. There it will be integrated with an encapsulating aeroshell to provide thermal protection before undergoing rigorous testing to verify it can withstand the harsh environments of a deep space mission.



Individual and combination testing of modulators and horns (shown above) was conducted in the Reverberant Acoustic Test Facility at the Space Power Facility in Sandusky, Ohio. The testing, which has gone smoothly and is expected to last four weeks, is to verify operation, tunability, and performance of the resulting acoustic spectrum using in-chamber microphones. This process, which begins checkout of the operation of the acoustic closed-loop control system, has subjected the chamber and horn room systems to high sound pressure levels for the first time. The chamber, with the ability to reach an overall sound pressure level of 163dB, will simulate spacecraft launch and ascent acoustic environments. The testing of the Reverberant Acoustic Test Facility is conducted through the Space Power Facility Control Room (shown below) that has the capability of monitoring testing/activity in multiple areas of the entire facility.

